

ASTERIAS OLIGACTES.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Corpus depressum; crusta coriacea, tentaculis muricata.

Os centrale, quinquevalve.

Lyn. Syst. Nat. p. 1098.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

ASTERIAS ALBO-FLAVESCENS, radiis longissimis simplicibus.

ASTERIAS OLIGACTES. A. radiis longissimis simplicibus; articulis singulis basi stylis binis mobilibus aentis.

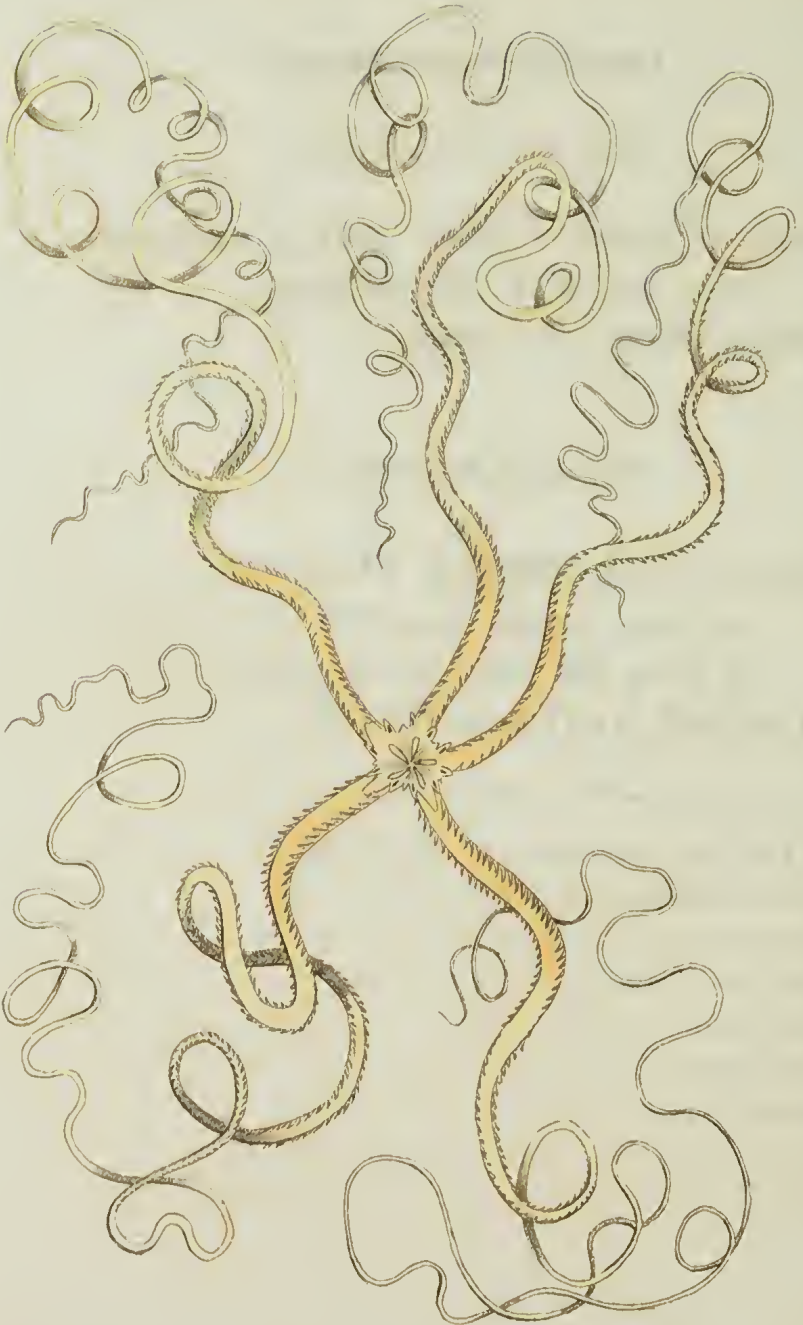
Lin. Syst. Nat. GMEL. p. 3167.

Pall. nov. act. Petrop. 2. p. 239.

A celeberrimo Pallas in Novis Actis Academiae Petropolitanae ita describitur Asterias oligactes.

“ Corpuseulum duriusculum, exiguum, magnitudine ea quam figura exprimit, pentagonum, angulis truncatis; superiore facie medio impressa, stellataque costis rotundatis dens, per paria versus angulos truncatos subparallelis, extrorsum crassescens; inferiore

inferiore facie plana, ore in medio ramis linearibus
dissecto, stellato et ad ortum radiorum fissura utrin-
que obliqua incisa. Radii proportionem corporis
enormi longitudine ad quindecim pollices et ultra
explere visi, quantum mensurare filo potuerunt, tereti-
filiformes, lentissime adtenuati, compositi articulis
creberrimis, crustaceis, osseis, consistentia et colore
ut in *Asteria Medusæ*. Singuli articuli ad latus ori
respondens instructi pedunculis seu stylis binis mobi-
libus, ipso articulo vix longioribus, approximatis.
Color totius albo-flavescens, consistentia dura,
crustacea.”



SLENDER-LIMBED STAR-FISH.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Body depressed; covered with a coriaceous crust, muricated with tentacula.

Mouth central, five valved.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

YELLOWISH WHITE STAR-FISH, with very long, simple rays; the joints furnished at the base with two moveable styles.

SLENDER-RAYED ASTERIAS.

This curious species of Star-Fish is described by the celebrated Dr. Pallas in the New Petersburg Transactions. It is of the size represented on the plate, and consists of a small, hardish, pentagonal body with truncated angles: the upper surface is marked in a stellated manner by ten ribs or elevations disposed by pairs towards the corners: these ribs are somewhat thicker towards the corners than towards the middle of the body: the mouth is central,

tral, star-shaped and divided by linear processes: the rays or limbs are of enormous length in proportion to the body, measuring more than fifteen inches, and are of a rounded, thread-like appearance, tapering very gradually to their extremities, and consist of very numerous, crustaceous or bony joints, of similar consistence to those of the Asterias Medusa: each joint, on the side or surface answering to the mouth, is furnished with two moveable styles or processes, scarce longer than the joint itself: the whole animal is of a yellowish white colour, and of a hard, crustaceous substance.